United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

California Crop Weather

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture
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WEATHER

At the start of the week, a strong high pressure cell was centered over Colorado and extended across the southern half of California, resulting in seasonably warm temperatures over the northern half of the state, and much warmer than normal conditions in southern California. As the week progressed, this high pressure system held its position, but a low pressure system developed off the coast of the Pacific Northwest and approached the northern California coast. This brought a cooling trend to northern California for the middle of the week. By the weekend, a cold front began to move through northern California, from the offshore low pressure system. This front was actually strong enough to trigger some showers across the northern mountain ranges and across the northern Sacramento Valley. The coolest temperatures of the week were reported in the north, a direct result of the frontal passage. Southern California saw few effects of this frontal system, and the high temperatures and very dry conditions in that part of the state prompted serious fire hazard conditions.

FIELD CROPS

Rice heading continued. **Safflower** fields were being harvested while others were drying down prior to harvest. **Sudan** harvest continued. **Alfalfa** was being cut and baled for hay. **Cotton** fields were nearing the end of bloom and setting bolls in some areas, while in others parts of the state it was being cultivated and treated to control weeds and insects. **Barley**, **oats**, **wheat**, and winter forage fields were being disced in preparation for fall planted crops in Fresno County. **Corn** was being chopped for silage in Tulare County. Corn for grain harvest was underway in other parts of the state. Fall **sugar beets** were being harvested in Fresno County. **Sweet potatoes** were harvested in Merced County.

FRUIT CROPS

The wine **grape** harvest continued with good yields reported. Table grape harvest was well underway. Raisin growers continued to make preparations to harvest dried-on-the-vine varieties and conventional raisins. Vineyards were still being fertilized, irrigated, and treated for weeds, insects, and diseases. Valencia **oranges** were being packed for the domestic market. The **pomegranate** crop continued to color and harvest began in Fresno County. **Fig**, **pear**, and **apple** harvests were ongoing. Various stone fruits, including **nectarines**, **peaches**, **plums**, and **pluots** were also being harvested.

NUT CROPS

Almond harvest continued with good yields reported. **Walnuts** were being prepared for harvest. Walnut groves were still being sprayed for weeds, codling moth and sunburn. **Pistachios** were sizing nicely.

VEGETABLE CROPS

The cooler temperatures helped the vegetable crops set in Tulare County and harvest continued in full swing for various commodities. **Sweet corn** continued to show excellent growth. Early pole **cucumbers** continued to bloom. **Tomatoes** continued to be treated for mold, mites, stinkbugs, and worms while harvesting continued for processing tomatoes. Harvest continued for **bell pepper**, **cantaloupe**, **honeydew**, fresh tomatoes, and freezer lima **beans**. **Carrot** harvest has entered its usual slow down stage. Harvesting continued for **broccoli**, **cabbage**, **cilantro**, **kale**, **spinach**, summer **squash**, carrots, **onions**, cucumbers, **eggplant**, and **lettuce** throughout the state.

LIVESTOCK

Early fall calving of beef cows continued. Cows on dry foothill pastures were receiving either hay or nutrient supplements. Some ranchers in the central area were thinning cattle herds to prolong existing forage and/or reduce expense to feed hay. Irrigated pastures were in good condition with mild weather beneficial to cattle and pastures. Some irrigated pastures were being cut for hay due to record high hay prices. Cooler temperatures have eased stress on dairy cattle and boosted milk production. Sheep, mainly stock ewes, and goats were grazing in harvested wheat fields, retired farmland, harvested safflower, cantaloupe fields, and in abandoned alfalfa fields. Honey bees were in melon fields in the central area and in melon, squash, and vineseed fields in the northern valley.

This report is available the first workday of the week after 1:00 PDT at
www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/California/Publications/index.asp

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER – WEEK ENDING 08/19/07

STATIONS	TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS AT 60°F BASE		PRECIPITATION			
					This Season	Normal	This Season		Normal	
	Average Week Ending 08/19/07	Departure from Normal	High	Low	January 1 - 08/19/07	January 1 - 08/19/07	Week Ending 08/19/07	July 1 - 08/19/07	July 1 - 08/19/07	July 1 - June 30
	- - Degrees Fahrenheit - -				- - Number - -		- - Inches - -			
NORTH COAST										
Eureka	57	-2	68	45	24	0	0.11	1.52	0.35	37.53
Ukiah	69	-4	93	48	1,065	979	0.00	0.12	0.15	37.96
Santa Rosa	67	0	89	45	566	557	0.00	0.17	0.12	30.30
CENTRAL COAST										
San Francisco AP	64	0	74	55	305	223	0.00	0.02	0.07	19.70
San Jose	67	-3	81	55	792	854	0.00	0.01	0.08	14.42
Salinas AP	64	0	77	51	236	205	0.00	0.01	0.08	12.44
Monterey FAA	62	1	72	51	142	70	0.00	0.00	0.21	18.72
King City	68	0	89	48	820	652	0.00	0.00	0.04	11.44
Paso Robles AP	76	3	103	51	1,263	1,042	0.00	0.00	0.03	13.95
SACRAMENTO VALLEY										
Redding	76	-3	98	56	1,981	1,717	0.00	1.71	0.29	33.30
Red Bluff FSS	76	-4	97	56	1,965	1,792	0.00	1.30	0.20	22.29
Chico AFS	76	0	97	56	1,764	1,412	0.00	0.27	0.16	26.32
Marysville	74	-3	96	51	1,805	1,680	0.00	0.04	0.11	21.04
Sacramento AP	73	-1	93	54	1,382	1,283	0.00	0.01	0.09	17.52
SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY										
Stockton WSO	76	-1	95	56	1,772	1,496	0.03	0.34	0.08	13.95
Fresno	80	-1	100	60	2,236	1,930	0.00	0.00	0.02	10.60
Bakersfield	79	-4	95	63	2,364	2,121	0.00	0.00	0.06	5.72
SOUTH COAST										
Santa Maria AP	64	0	78	48	346	215	0.00	0.01	0.07	12.36
Santa Barbara	67	0	80	53	384	406	0.01	0.04	0.11	16.25
Ventura	67	67	80	54	358	0	0.00	0.00	0.04	14.38
Los Angeles	79	4	91	64	1,475	1,441	0.00	0.00	0.09	14.77
Riverside	85	7	106	63	1,978	1,487	0.00	0.00	0.14	9.58
San Diego AP	75	3	83	68	882	1,015	0.00	0.00	0.10	9.90
SOUTHEAST INTERIOR										
Bishop	77	3	101	46	1,590	1,190	0.00	0.43	0.26	5.37
Lancaster	84	5	104	65	2,265	1,658	0.00	0.00	0.20	6.92
Daggett AP	92	4	109	74	3,235	2,726	0.09	0.14	0.69	3.93
Thermal AP	93	4	112	72	3,510	3,325	0.00	0.00	0.43	3.16
Blythe	98	4	113	83	3,968	3,678	0.00	0.00	0.75	3.60
Imperial	97	6	114	82	3,864	3,427	0.00	0.05	0.33	2.75
CASCADE - SIERRA										
Alturas	63	-1	95	31	484	268	0.00	0.04	0.53	12.01
Mt. Shasta	64	-2	87	43	551	379	0.02	0.20	0.68	37.02
Blue Canyon	69	2	81	56	734	437	0.00	0.00	0.73	67.04
Yosemite	--	--	--	--	1,006	777	0.00	0.00	0.71	37.05

Normal is defined as average over the 30-year period 1961 through 1990. Dashes (- -) in Average Week Ending and Departure from Normal columns mean less than five days reporting, while in High and Low columns mean no days reporting.

Weekly summary provided by the Western Regional Climate Center with data reported by the National Weather Service. When data are quality controlled by the National Climatic Data Center, the accumulated growing degree day and precipitation values are updated.